



## **FINOS**

Fintech  
Open Source  
Foundation

# FDC3 Documentation Review & Gap Analysis - WIP (DRAFT )

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Tosha Ellison, Director of Member Success  
and Foundation Marketing

Rob Underwood, Director of Programs

Gab Columbro, Executive Director

*Confidential*

# Document Overview

## Document Purpose

- Provide an overview of FINOS target audience and information architecture across web properties
- Identify further work required on FDC3 documentation to make it release ready
  - Documentation is one of several key criteria to move a project to [“Released” status defined in the FINOS community handbook](#) (see next slide - “Criteria for ‘Released’ Status”)
- Documents reviewed from 11/25 to 11/28
  - FDC3 overall
    - <https://fdc3.finos.org/>
    - Also → <https://fdc3.org/>
  - API: <https://fdc3-api.finos.org/>
  - App Directory: <https://github.com/FDC3/App-Directory/blob/master/Specification-Draft.MD>
    - “This repository has been archived by the owner. It is now read-only.”
  - Context Data: <https://fdc3-context-data.finos.org/>
    - <https://github.com/FDC3/ContextData/blob/master/Specification-Draft.MD>

## Planning Docs (For Us to Use Going Forward After This Call)

- [Overall FDC3 Integrated Release Plan \(on FDC3 Wiki; WIP\)](#)
  - [Documentation Sub Plan](#) (on FDC3 Wiki; reflects “Documentation Readiness Assessment”)

# FINOS Information Architecture Approach

1. Identify what people (personas) will use the FDC3 material
2. Identify what information, background, and material needs to exist in each web property
3. Perform gap analysis (this document) for
  - a. What's altogether missing and needs to be written?
  - b. What is good to go “as-is” but needs to be moved?
    - i. And what is done if anything to keep current site “whole”
  - c. What needs to get edited AND moved?
  - d. What only needs to be edited?

# FINOS Information architecture

Target personas, web  
properties, high level  
content

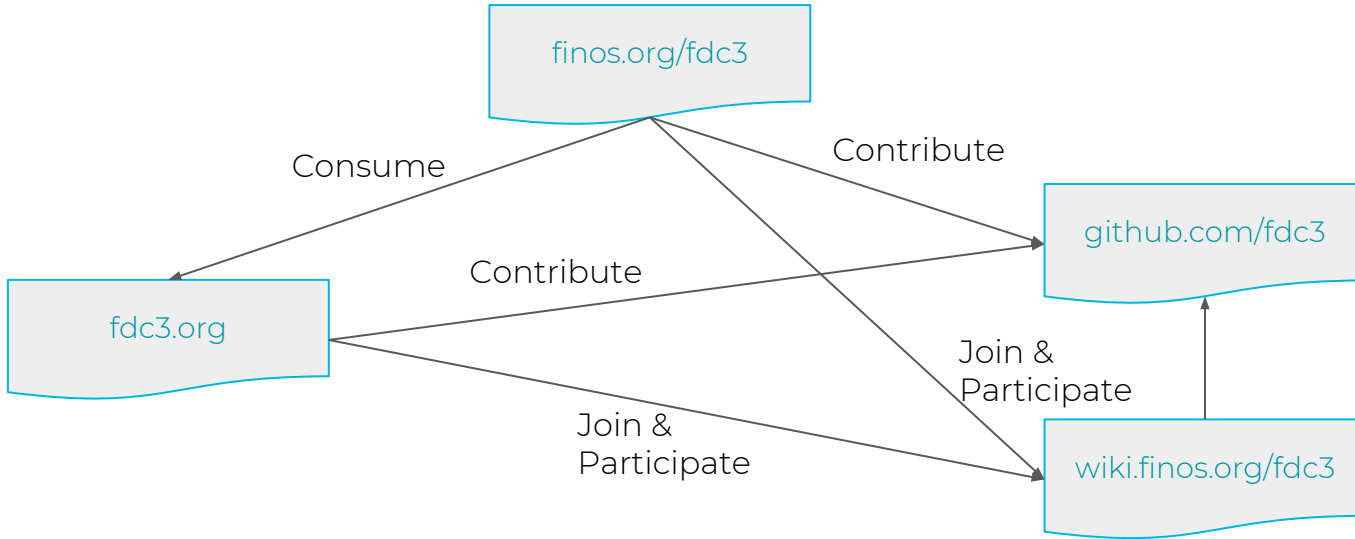
# High level Target Personas

- **Consumer**
  - Business (software buyer, evaluator, finserv SME)
  - Technical (trading app developer, system integrator)
- **Contributor**
  - Existing
  - Prospective
- **FINOS Community (incl Members)**
- **Rest of the world**
  - First time visitors
  - FINOS evaluators
  - Open source enthusiasts
  - Reporters/Bloggers/Media/Analysts
  - Etc.

# FINOS Web Properties

Property	URL	Purpose	Persona	High level Content	R(esponsible)	S(upport)
Program Docs Micro-site	<a href="https://fdc3.org">Fdc3.org</a> (temporarily fdc3.finos.org)	Provide largely self-contained business and technical information to <b>consume</b> the project / working group work products	Consumer (technical & business)	<p><b>Business:</b> High level goals of the Program, Business value, Use Cases, Certified Implementors, Case studies, Press Releases</p> <p><b>Technical:</b> API / Standard reference, code samples, other consumable artifacts (e.g. guides, howto), backward compatibility policy - for each sub-project and working groups</p>	PMC, Projects and Working Groups	FINOS Team
Program Wiki	<a href="https://wiki.finos.org/fdc3">wiki.finos.org/fdc3</a>	Host project / working groups collaboration and provide transparency to the rest of the Community	Contributor, FINOS Community	Roster, How to join, mailing lists, minutes, content centric collaboration	PMC, Projects and Working Groups	FINOS Team
Program Github Org	<a href="https://github.com/fdc3">github.com/fdc3</a>	Host project / working groups collaboration	Contributor, Advanced Technical Consumer	Open Source Code, How to join, mailing lists, minutes, content centric collaboration	PMC, Projects and Working Groups	FINOS Team
FINOS Program	<a href="https://finos.org/fdc3">finos.org/fdc3</a>	Provide an aggregated high level view of the Program, a	Rest of the World (catch	Summary Program info, Charter, High level business value, List of	FINOS team	PMC

# Bringing it all together



# FDC3 micro-site gap analysis

Representative samples  
of what's missing to  
achieve 1.0.0 doc quality  
for “Released” status



# What's needed for the FDC3 documentation?

- **It's a 2 dimensional problem**

- Version number (1.0.0 signals a degree of quality to consumers - as per [FINOS lifecycle](#))
- Quality of the documentation (quality \*can\* be lower if it's not a 1.0.0)

- **Things to keep in mind**

- Successful standards / projects tend to be incremental
  - A 1.0.0 is a BIG deal - once out it's hard to change
  - Backward compatibility policy is a fundamental item to clarify for a 1.0.0 given people will start building on the standard
- 
- The gap analysis will recommend a MoSCoW for a 1.0.0

# Criteria for 'Released' Status (1.0.0 qualifies)

From <https://finosfoundation.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/FINOS/pages/75530371/Released>

*(The following represents the foundation's view of criteria that should be applied to all projects across our foundation programs when declaring something formally released.):*

- The software is functional, though perhaps minimally viable.
- The software has high quality - it has met or exceeded all of the Foundation's security and compliance requirements, and has been well tested.
- The installation & upgrade experiences should be relatively smooth - binaries will be available at a minimum, and more advanced deployment options (installers, containers, VM images, automated upgrade scripts etc.) may also be available.
- ***The project is well documented.***
- The project is supported by an engaged project team. While there may not be a formal SLA (depending on the availability of commercial support for the project), bugs and enhancement requests will be triaged and addressed by the team.
- Backwards compatibility is a priority, and semantic versioning is used to clearly communicate breaking changes.

**Also see the requirements in the “[Activation](#)” phase, including and especially those related to documentation, to move a project to released stage.**

*Note: Currently FDC3 working groups are in “[Operating](#)” status (see <https://finos.github.io/?programShortName=FDC3&state=OPERATING&sort=hotness-down>), which is a default status used for working groups.*

# Documentation Requirements for a 1.0.0

- In the readme.md (see [“Activation”](#) for more info)
  - “description of the software, including a feature overview”
  - “installation & configuration instructions”
  - “description of how to use the software”
  - “links to other systems (further documentation, continuous integration & validation tools, artifact repository, change log / history, etc.)”
  - “Foundation status badge (“Released” when all criteria are met and PMC approves)”
  - “Roadmap”
  - “copyright & license information”
- Additionally the product (micro-) site should also include (in the case of FDC3, that’s fdcs.finos.org / fdce.;org)
  - A business overview of the product (i.e., FDC3 standards), its value to organization, and an explanation of what businesses should implement it and/or use/buy software that does implement it -- **in layperson’s terms**.
  - A technical overview of the standards, including any overview of opinionation, preferred design patterns, etc.
  - An explanation of how to get involved and contribute (with a link over to the wiki for more information on that)
  - An explanation of how the standards (i.e., different work group products) are intended to be used together but also how they can be implemented as a standalone
  - A “getting started” guide / cookbook to implementing the standard
  - Links to reference implementations

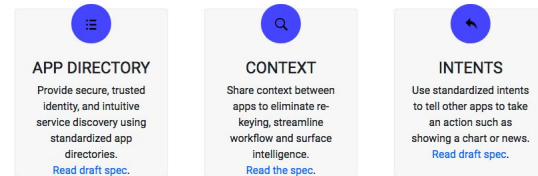
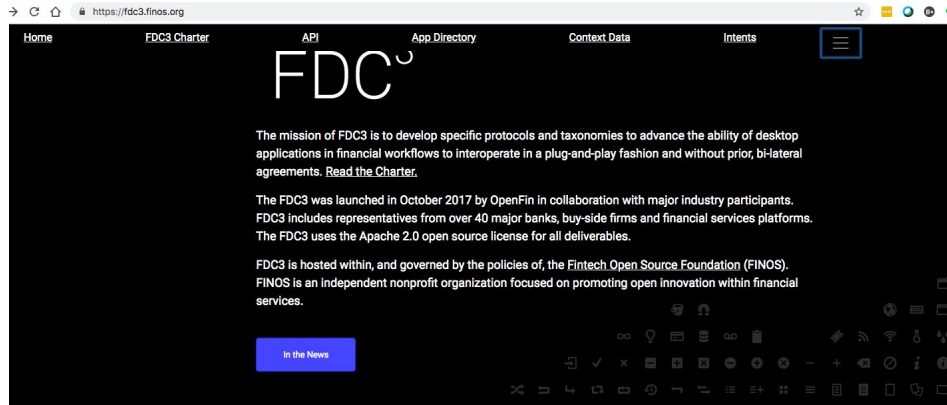
# Documentation readiness assessment

Information cluster	Description	Where does it live?	What's missing?	Suggested Owner	MoSCoW (1.0.0)	MoSCoW (1.0.0-RC1 or less)
Program High level info	Summary Program info, Charter, List of Projects / Working Groups, Links to other web properties, logos of active participants	FINOS Program Page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Link ("Consume") to fdc3.org</li> <li>- Link ("Consume") to each sub working group web page</li> <li>- Link ("Contribute") to each sub working group wiki / github</li> <li>- Remove "Focus Areas" (duplicative of WGs, should be part of Roadmap / see below)</li> </ul>	FINOS	M	M
FDC3 Business Overview	Charter, Business value of FDC3, sample use cases where it can be used	fdc3.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business value of FDC3</li> <li>- Sample use cases where it can be used</li> </ul>	PMC	M	S
FDC3 (Technical) Overview	Technical spec, architectural diagrams, how all working groups work products connect to each other, Code Samples	fdc3.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- architectural diagrams</li> <li>- how all working groups work products connect to each other</li> </ul>	PMC and WGs	M	S
Code Samples	Samples for each component of the standard, Ideally forkable in github	Code hosted in Github and embedded in fdc3.org	TBD	PMC and WGs	M	M
Business -> technical connective tissue	How standards maps into aforementioned use cases	fdc3.org	The whole thing	PMC and WGs	S	C
How get involved / contribute	Links to Github and Wiki How to provide feedback or propose changes to the standard? (is there an issue tracker) List of First-contributor potential tasks	Fdc3.org pointing back to Wiki / Github	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to provide feedback or propose changes to the standard? (is there an issue tracker)</li> <li>List of First-contributor potential tasks</li> </ul>	PMC (with support from FINOS)	M	M
Versioning information	What version scheme is used? What is the backward compatibility policy (i.e. definition of acceptable changes for major/minor/maintenance)	fdc3.org	The whole thing	PMC (with consult from FINOS)	M	C

# Missing items example: FINOS Branding

... there is none.

Need to establish a brand identity for FDC3 that is both distinct (and incorporates current logo w/ superscript “3”) and also relates back readily to the overall FINOS brand

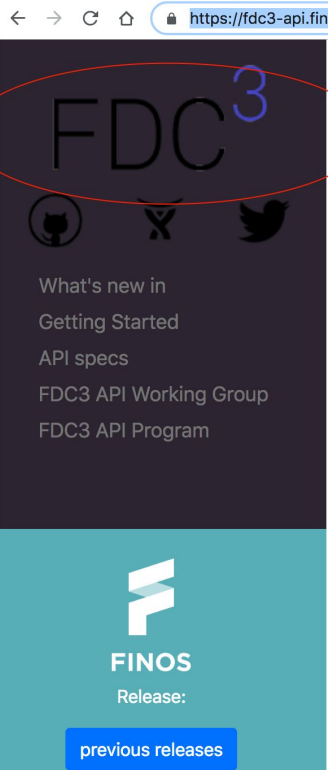


# FDC3 - API Docs: Color Scheme?

[Design & Styling] Check color scheme -- the colors on left hand side appear to clash (the brownish-dark gray background clashes with the FINOS teal)

[Design & Styling] FDC3 icon is washed out - is there an inverse of this logo we could use here (if we keep the brown/black background?)

[Navigation] What is breadcrumb trail back to "main" FDC3 site?



The screenshot shows a web browser at <https://fdc3-api.finos.org/specs.html>. The page has a dark background with the text "FDC3" in a light color. A red circle highlights the "FDC3" text, and a blue "3" is next to it. Below the text are icons for GitHub, a fork symbol, and Twitter. A navigation menu lists "What's new in", "Getting Started", "API specs", "FDC3 API Working Group", and "FDC3 API Program". The footer is teal with the FINOS logo and the text "Release:" and a blue button labeled "previous releases".

Intents provide a way for an app to request the destination app to the Desktop Agent. TI

- **Chain:** In this case the workflow is on Currently, this is the primary focus in F
- **Client-Service:** A Client invokes a Ser workflow back to the Client. Typically, as the standard contract for the intent.
- **Remote API:** An app wants to remote App cannot be standardized. However, order to get access to a proprietary AF

## 2.2.1 Intent Resolution

Raising an Intent will return a Promise-type

### 2.2.1.1 Resolve

- Intent was resolved unambiguously and
- Intent was ambiguous, a resolution was successfully.

### 2.2.1.2 Reject

- An app matching the intent was not fo
- A match was found, but the receiving
- The intent was ambiguous and the res

### 2.2.1.3 Resolution Object

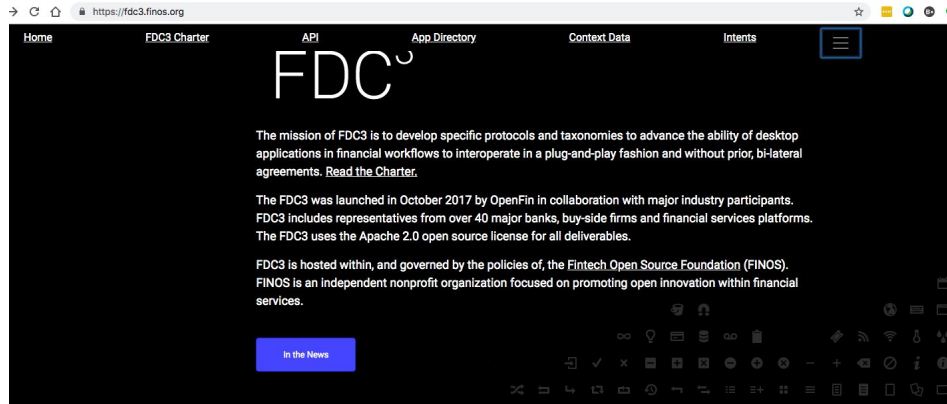
If the raising of the intent resolves (or reject:




# Missing Messages Example: Business value

- “This is a new standard that your developer teams should embrace and implement within your own trader facing applications (and why...)”
- “You and your company should prioritize vendors and products that adhere to the FDC3 standard (as it will save you money down the road and/or make your products more useful to end users)”

# Missing cross-links to other web properties

Need to implement cross-links as per slide 7



 <b>APP DIRECTORY</b> Provide secure, trusted identity, and intuitive service discovery using standardized app directories. <a href="#">Read draft spec.</a>	 <b>CONTEXT</b> Share context between apps to eliminate re-keying, streamline workflow and surface intelligence. <a href="#">Read the spec.</a>	 <b>INTENTS</b> Use standardized intents to tell other apps to take an action such as showing a chart or news. <a href="#">Read draft spec.</a>
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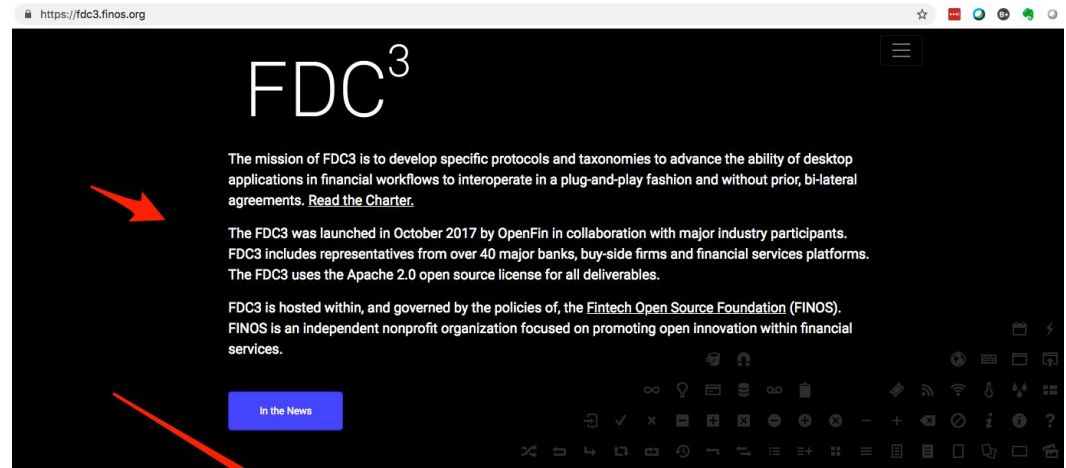


# Missing Connective Tissue -- Need to Tell Story

There is a 3 paragraph charter and then the descriptions of the 5 working groups with links to their specs (i.e., individual document repos)

We need documentation that ties together the vision to how these different pieces of the standard complement each other and work together, while remaining independent and usable alone.

Maybe make <https://fdc3-use-cases.finos.org/> diagram more prominent?



# FDC3 (Main) - Navigation Construct?

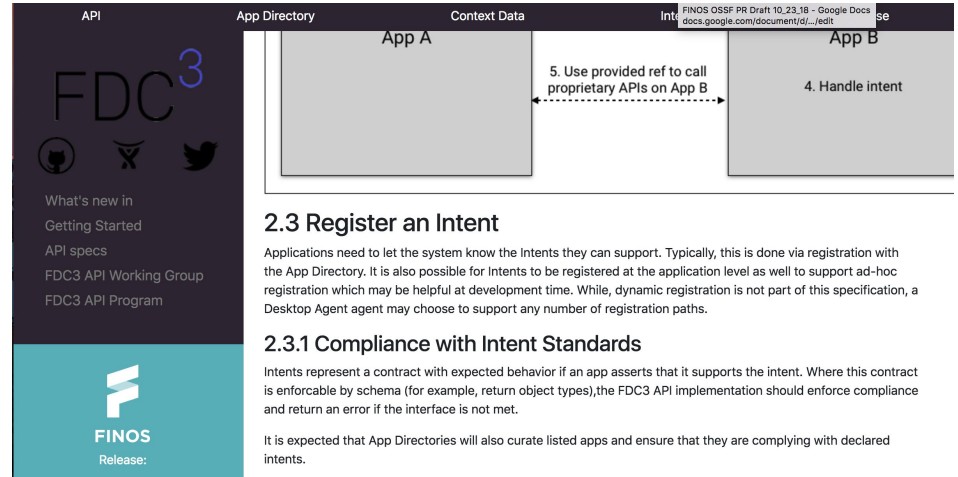
[Information Architecture] Does the working group taxonomy represent the right way to represent the documentation of the standard? How do we connect the dots for the reader to explain how the output of these different working groups is intended to be used together?



# FDC3 - API Docs

<https://fdc3-api.finos.org/specs.html>

- [Editorial / Copy] Make references to App Directory, Context Data in sections like 2.3.1 sound more certain and less speculative -- it appears like this was written by API team without review yet from other working groups (“It is expected that App Directories ...”)



The screenshot shows the FDC3 API documentation page. The left sidebar contains navigation links: "What's new in", "Getting Started", "API specs", "FDC3 API Working Group", and "FDC3 API Program". The main content area is titled "2.3 Register an Intent" and includes a diagram illustrating the interaction between two applications, App A and App B, through the App Directory and Context Data. The diagram shows App A sending a request to the App Directory, which then sends it to App B. App B handles the intent (4. Handle intent) and returns a response to the App Directory, which then sends it back to App A. The response is used by App A to call proprietary APIs on App B (5. Use provided ref to call proprietary APIs on App B).

## 2.3 Register an Intent

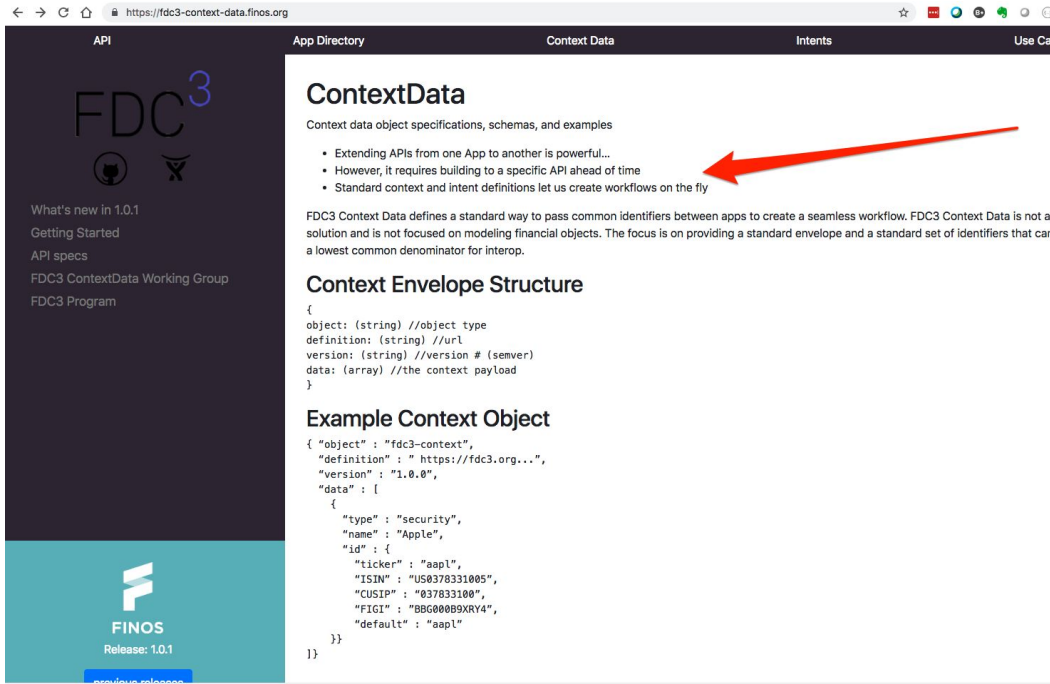
Applications need to let the system know the Intents they can support. Typically, this is done via registration with the App Directory. It is also possible for Intents to be registered at the application level as well to support ad-hoc registration which may be helpful at development time. While, dynamic registration is not part of this specification, a Desktop Agent agent may choose to support any number of registration paths.

### 2.3.1 Compliance with Intent Standards

Intents represent a contract with expected behavior if an app asserts that it supports the intent. Where this contract is enforceable by schema (for example, return object types), the FDC3 API implementation should enforce compliance and return an error if the interface is not met.

It is expected that App Directories will also curate listed apps and ensure that they are complying with declared intents.

# FDC3 - ContextData



The screenshot shows the website <https://fdc3-context-data.finos.org>. The page has a dark header with navigation links: API, App Directory, Context Data, Intents, and Use Cases. The main content area is titled "ContextData" and includes the following sections:

- ContextData**  
Context data object specifications, schemas, and examples
  - Extending APIs from one App to another is powerful...
  - However, it requires building to a specific API ahead of time
  - Standard context and intent definitions let us create workflows on the fly
- Context Envelope Structure**

```
{
  object: (string) //object type
  definition: (string) //url
  version: (string) //version # (semver)
  data: (array) //the context payload
}
```
- Example Context Object**

```
{ "object" : "fdc3-context",
  "definition" : " https://fdc3.org...",
  "version" : "1.0.0",
  "data" : [
    {
      "type" : "security",
      "name" : "Apple",
      "id" : {
        "ticker" : "aapl",
        "ISIN" : "US9378331005",
        "CUSIP" : "037833100",
        "FIGI" : "BBG00089XR4",
        "default" : "aapl"
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

At the bottom of the page, there is a teal banner with the FINOS logo and the text "Release: 1.0.1".

ContextData needs more context -- how are these intended to be used?

Need to establish policy regarding Financial Objects and how that relates to ContextData once and for all

# Open Questions

- What does the PMC think about the requirements for proper productization of the documentation ahead of release?
- Shall we consider an RC1 to lower the bar of the quality required? (and use an iterative approach)
  - Also if the goal is to get feedback, an RC would be a great way to signal to the community that you want to include them before making a 1.0.0 final
  - 1.0.0 right off the bat are “dodgy” :)
  - If no feedback is received, the RC1 becomes 1.0.0 automatically (no need to re-release)
- What timeline should we target for release based on open tasks?